

# NICARAGUA



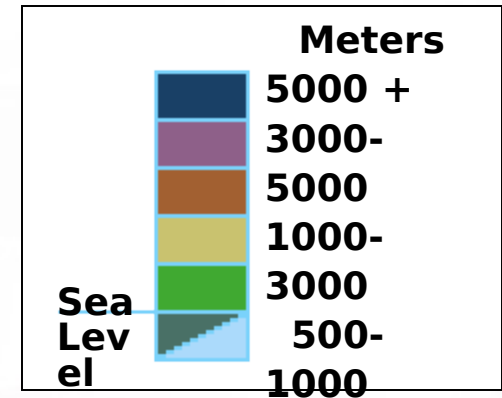
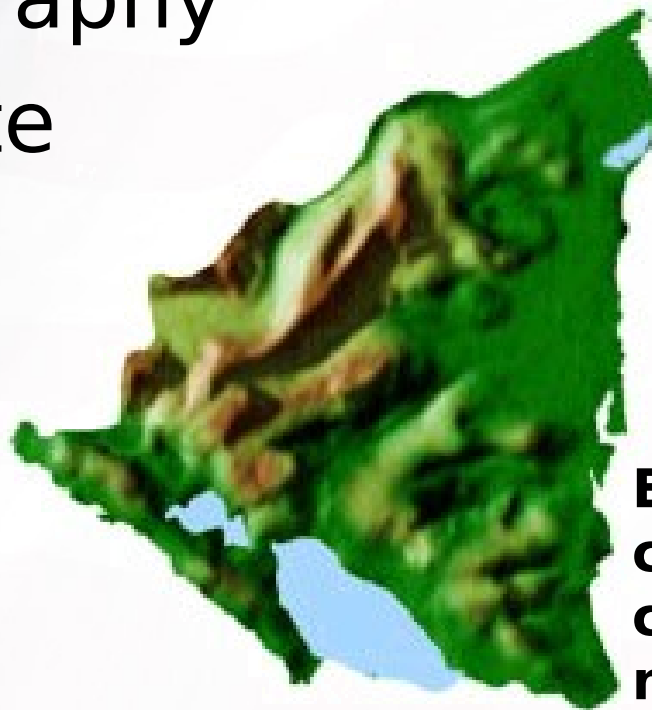
- One of poorest countries in Western Hemisphere
- Developing economy
- Landmines possible in remote areas of north
- Natural disasters
  - Earthquakes
  - Hurricanes
  - Volcanic eruptions



# Nicaragua: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate

**Tropical in lowlands, cooler in highlands**



0-500  
Depressio

**Extensive Atlantic coastal plains rising to central interior mountains; narrow Pacific coastal plain interrupted by volcanoes**

**lowest point: Pacific**

# Nicaragua: Environmental Issues

- Industry
  - Primarily agriculture
  - Mining and fishing rapidly expanding
  - Other includes an oil refinery, a pesticide plant, a chlor-alkali plant, and a textile plant
- Water
  - Surface water contaminated with raw sewage, industrial waste, and agricultural runoff
  - Mercury and cyanide contamination due to gold mining

# Nicaragua: Environmental Issues

- Food
  - Contaminated seafood caused by algal toxins, sometimes seen as red tides
- Air
  - Localized pollution near urban and industrial centers
  - Spring burning in agricultural areas
- Soil
  - Localized contamination near industry and waste disposal sites



# Nicaragua: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
  - Water contaminated with raw sewage or runoff
- Greatest long-term environmental health risks
  - Chronic ingestion of mercury in contaminated of water

The background of the slide is a faded American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The title is enclosed in a red-bordered box.

# Nicaragua: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Intermediate risk country
- Diseases of greatest risk
  - Food and water-borne: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A
  - Vector-borne: dengue fever, malaria

# Nicaragua: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
  - Food and water-borne: brucellosis, cholera, hepatitis E, protozoal diarrhea, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
  - Vector-borne: Chagas disease, leishmaniasis
  - Sexually transmitted: gonorrhea/chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS
  - Water contact: leptospirosis
  - Respiratory: tuberculosis
  - Animal contact: rabies
  - Person-to-person: viral hemorrhagic conjunctivitis